

International Wildlife Conservation Council

Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2018

NOTE: Draft/unedited transcription of the meeting recording, presentations, written public comment, and other meeting materials can be found on the IWCC's Federal Advisory Committee Database Page, at:

<https://www.facadatabase.gov/committee/meetingdocuments.aspx?flr=155489&cid=2636>

The **International Wildlife Conservation Council** (Council) convened for a meeting at 10:15am March 16 at the Main Interior Building in Washington, D.C. In accordance with the provisions of Public Law 92-463, the meeting was open to the public throughout the meeting's duration.

Council members present: Paul Babaz, Bill Brewster, Ivan Carter, Steven Chancellor, Jenifer Chatfield DVM Dipl. ACZM, Cameron Hanes, Peter Horn, Chris Hudson, Mike Ingram, John Jackson, Gary Kania, Terry Maple, Keith Mark, Olivia Opre, Erica Rhoad, Denise Welker. Ex officio representation included, Greg Sheehan (USFWS), and Rowena Watson (Department of State).

Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for Council:

Joshua Winchell, USFWS

Attendees:

Jani Actman, Teki Akuetteh, Eric Alvarez, Michael Biesecker, Daphne Carlson Bremer, Emily Cochrane, Michael Doyle, Kate Dylewsky, Stephanie Ebbs, Anna Frostic, Sara Ganim, Joe Goergen, Edward Grace, Miranda Green, Noah Greenwald, Deb Hahn, Mark Hofberg, Craig Hoover, David Hubbard, Lisa Jones, Masha Kalinina, Bill Kitchen, Julie Kluck, Deb Kornblut, Stephanie Kurose, Peter LaFontaine, Sarah Lessard, Rachel Mathews, Stephanie Mencimer, Marshall Myers, Emma Nelson, Katarzyna Nowak, Steve Olson, Richard Parsons, Jennifer Place, Keisha Sedlacek, Anna Seidman, Alejandra Seminario, Gavin Shire, Carter Stratton, Frank Vitello, Heidi Vogt, Greg Wallace

Meeting was called to order by FWS Principal Deputy Director Greg Sheehan at 10:15am.

Presentations:

- *Introduction:* Welcome and introductory remarks were provided from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Principal Deputy Director Greg Sheehan. Sheehan outlined the day's agenda, a description of the IWCC's role and responsibilities, introduced USFWS staff at the meeting, and asked each IWCC member to introduce themselves.
- *Presentation:* USFWS International Wildlife Conservation Program (Craig Hoover, USFWS). Hoover provided slide presentation on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's International Wildlife Conservation Program. Hoover outlined the FWS authorities and resources that help to conserve international wildlife, including Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). David Hubbard (USFWS) provided background on the role of the FWS Office of Law

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Enforcement in international wildlife conservation. Hoover and Hubbard responded to clarifying questions from Council members including: grant program funding for international conservation, and revenue generated from international trophy hunting programs.

- *Presentation:* Combating Wildlife Trafficking (Hoover and Hubbard). Hoover provided a slide presentation on the threat wildlife trafficking has on conservation of domestic and international species. critical conservation issue with a focus on the END Wildlife Trafficking Act implementation.

Public Comment

- Masha Kalinina (Humane Society International) - Offered comments on behalf of Humane Society International, Humane Society of the United States, and the Humane Society Legislative Fund (written comment providing more detail and context for her oral comments were also submitted for the meeting). Kalinina called into question the need for the IWCC, the qualifications of its membership, and highlighted the need for additional funding for the USFWS International Affairs conservation programs.
- Bill Kitchen - Offered comments opposing trophy hunting and questioning whether the activity supports wildlife conservation.
- Peter LaFontaine (International Fund for Animal Welfare) - Offered comments on behalf of International Fund for Animal Welfare, Animal Welfare Institute, Born Free USA, and Defenders of Wildlife (written comment providing more detail and context for his oral comments were also submitted for the meeting). LaFontaine urged the council to push for prioritization of funding for the nation's international conservation and anti-wildlife trafficking programs. LaFontaine also called into question the need for the IWCC and the qualifications of its membership.
- Anna Seidman (Safari Club International) - Offered comments on behalf of Safari Club International. Seidman highlighted the importance of hearing and learning from range-states and the local/impacted communities regarding their needs/desires for wildlife conservation and sustainable use management. Seidman suggested that the council should reach out to individuals from these (African) communities and hear directly from them to better inform their discussion.

Council Discussion and Actions

After public comment, the council discussed election of chairs and establishment of committees:

- **Election of Chairs:** Bill Brewster and Jenifer Chatfield were nominated and approved unanimously to serve as Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively, for the Council.
- **Establishment of Committees:** The Council established three committees, selected chairs and members for each:
 - Policy - Chair, Chris Hudson; Members - Paul Babaz, Bill Brewster, Jennifer Chatfield, John Jackson, Gary Kania, Keith Mark, Erica Rhoad

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- Conservation - Chair, Denise Welker; Members - Paul Babaz, Ivan Carter, Steven Chancellor, Jenifer Chatfield, Peter Horn, Chris Hudson, Mike Ingram, John Jackson, Terry Maple, Olivia Opre
- Enforcement/Trafficking- Supporting Communities - Chair, Ivan Carter; Members - Bill Brewster, Steven Chancellor, Cameron Hanes, Peter Horn, Mike Ingram, Terry Maple, Keith Mark, Olivia Opre, Erica Rhoad, Denise Welker
- **Timing and Structure for Next Meeting:** The council discussed the possibility of scheduling its next meeting summer 2018, with a focus on hearing perspectives from Africa (range-states). Chair Brewster requested members provide their schedules and suggestions for possible speakers.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:30pm on March 16.